

Serial No. 10/801,566
Amendment dated August 1, 2007
Reply to Office Action of May 3, 2007

Docket No. IK-0086

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A refrigerator door, comprising:
 - an outer case forming a front appearance of the refrigerator door;
 - an inner case forming a rear appearance of the refrigerator door;
 - an insulation layer disposed between the outer case and the inner case;
 - a dispenser detachably coupled to a front surface of the outer case and including a housing, which forms an external appearance of the dispenser and is formed with a recess section; and
 - an external plate section removably coupled to the front surface of the outer case except for an area in which the dispenser is installed, in order to form an external appearance of the refrigerator door, wherein at least both sides of the external plate section are removably coupled to the outer case, and wherein mounting frames having mounting slots are provided at both side ends of the refrigerator door, and both side ends of the external plate section are inserted into the mounting slots of the mounting frames.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) A refrigerator door, comprising:
- an outer case forming a front appearance of the refrigerator door;
 - an inner case forming a rear appearance of the refrigerator door;
 - an insulation layer formed between the outer case and the inner case;
 - a dispenser detachably coupled to a front surface of the outer case and including a housing, which forms an external appearance of the dispenser and is formed with a recess section; and
- an external plate section coupled to the front surface of the outer case except for an area in which the dispenser is installed, in order to form an external appearance of the refrigerator door, wherein a mounting bracket having a recess part corresponding to the recess section of the housing is coupled to the front surface of the outer case, and the housing is coupled to the mounting bracket by means of mounting protrusions and a protrusion receiving section formed in the housing and the mounting bracket, respectively, thereby coupling the dispenser to the outer case.

4. (Original) The refrigerator door as claimed in claim 3, wherein one side end of the housing is rotatably coupled to the mounting bracket.

5. (Original) The refrigerator door as claimed in claim 4, wherein the housing is formed at upper and lower ends thereof with insertion slots into which edge parts of the external plate section are inserted.

6. (Original) The refrigerator door as claimed in claim 1, wherein an actuating lever is installed in the recess section of the housing for a discharge operation of water or ice cubes from the dispenser, and a driving lever is installed rearward of the recess section so as to open/close a water port or an ice cube port according to actuating force of the actuating lever transferred thereto through an engagement bar.

7. (Previously Presented) A refrigerator door, comprising:
an outer case forming a front appearance of the refrigerator door;
an inner case forming a rear appearance of the refrigerator door;
an insulation layer formed between the outer case and the inner case;
a dispenser detachably coupled to a front surface of the outer case and including a housing, which forms an external appearance of the dispenser and is formed with a recess section; and

an external plate section coupled to the front surface of the outer case except for an area in which the dispenser is installed, in order to form an external appearance of the

refrigerator door, wherein an actuating lever is installed in the recess section of the housing for a discharge operation of water or ice cubes from the dispenser, and a driving lever is installed rearward of the recess section so as to open/close a water port or an ice cube port according to actuating force of the actuating lever transferred thereto through an engagement bar, and wherein the driving lever is installed at a lever resting section formed in the mounting bracket provided between a rear surface of the housing and the outer case.

8. (Previously Presented) A refrigerator door, comprising:

an outer case forming a front appearance of the refrigerator door;

an inner case forming a rear appearance of the refrigerator door;

an insulation layer formed between the outer case and the inner case;

a dispenser detachably coupled to a front surface of the outer case and including a

housing, which forms an external appearance of the dispenser and is formed with a recess section; and

an external plate section coupled to the front surface of the outer case except for an area in which the dispenser is installed, in order to form an external appearance of the refrigerator door, wherein an actuating lever is installed in the recess section of the housing for a discharge operation of water or ice cubes from the dispenser, and a driving lever is installed rearward of the recess section so as to open/close a water port or an ice cube port according to

actuating force of the actuating lever transferred thereto through an engagement bar, and wherein the engagement bar rearwardly extends from a rear surface of the actuating lever by passing through a rear wall of the recess section and makes contact with the driving lever.

9. (Original) The refrigerator door as claimed in claim 6, wherein at least one guide bar is provided at the rear surface of the actuating lever and the guide bar passes through a perforated hole formed in the rear wall of the recess section in order to guide a movement of the actuating lever.

10. (Original) The refrigerator door as claimed in claim 6, wherein the recess section of the housing is formed at a top thereof with an opening section for allowing water or ice cubes discharged from the water port or the ice cube port to be introduced into the recess section.

11. (Previously Presented) A refrigerator door, comprising:
- an outer case forming a front appearance of the refrigerator door;
 - an inner case forming a rear appearance of the refrigerator door;
 - an insulation layer formed between the outer case and the inner case;

first and second mounting frames installed at both side ends of the refrigerator door and having first and second mounting slots longitudinally formed in the first and second mounting frames in opposition to each other;

a dispenser detachably coupled to a front surface of the outer case and including a housing, which forms an external appearance of the dispenser and is formed with a recess section, both ends of the dispenser being inserted into the first and second mounting slots; and

an external plate section coupled to the front surface of the outer case except for an area in which the dispenser is installed, in order to form an external appearance of the refrigerator door, both side end portions of the external plate being inserted into the first and second mounting slots of the first and second mounting frames.

12. (Original) The refrigerator door as claimed in claim 11, wherein the dispenser includes the housing forming the external appearance of the dispenser and having the recess section formed at a top thereof with an opening section, a discharge port for discharging water or ice cubes towards the recess section through the opening section of the housing, a mounting bracket installed in the outer case and coupled to the housing with a shape corresponding to a shape of the housing, an actuating lever installed in the recess section of the housing for a discharge operation of water or ice cubes, and a driving lever provided between the mounting

bracket and the housing in order to open/close the discharge port according to actuating force of the actuating lever.

13. (Original) The refrigerator door as claimed in claim 12, wherein the housing has mounting protrusions, the mounting bracket has a protrusion receiving section corresponding to the mounting protrusions, and the housing is coupled to the mounting bracket by means of the mounting protrusions and the protrusion receiving section.

14. (Original) The refrigerator door as claimed in claim 13, wherein one side portion of the housing is rotatably coupled to the mounting bracket.

15. (Original) The refrigerator door as claimed in claim 12, wherein an engagement bar is provided between the actuating lever and a lower portion of the driving lever so as to transfer actuating force of the actuating lever to the driving lever, and at least one guide bar is integrally formed with a rear surface of the actuating lever, the guide bar being positioned in a perforated hole formed in a rear wall of the recess section of the housing.

16. (Original) The refrigerator door as claimed in claim 12, wherein the housing is formed at upper and lower ends thereof with insertion slots into which edge parts of the external plate section are inserted.

17. (Original) The refrigerator door as claimed in claim 12, further comprising a water bucket installed at a bottom of the recess section of the housing.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously Presented) A refrigerator door, comprising:
an outer case forming a front appearance of the refrigerator door;
an inner case forming a rear appearance of the refrigerator door;
an insulation layer formed between the outer case and the inner case;
a dispenser detachably coupled to a front surface of the outer case and including a housing, which forms an external appearance of the dispenser and is formed with a recess section having an opening section for allowing water or ice cubes discharged from the water port or the ice cube port to be introduced into the recess section; and

an external plate section coupled to the front surface of the outer case except for an area in which the dispenser is installed, in order to form an external appearance of the

refrigerator door, wherein a mounting bracket having a recess part corresponding to the recess section of the housing is coupled to the front surface of the outer case, and the housing is coupled to the mounting bracket by means of mounting protrusions and a protrusion receiving section formed in the housing and the mounting bracket, respectively, thereby coupling the dispenser to the outer case, and the mounting bracket having an opening section formed at a top of the recess part of corresponding the opening section of the housing.

20. (Previously Presented) A refrigerator door, comprising:

an outer case forming a front appearance of the refrigerator door;

an inner case forming a rear appearance of the refrigerator door;

an insulation layer formed between the outer case and the inner case;

a dispenser detachably coupled to a front surface of the outer case and including a

housing, which forms an external appearance of the dispenser and is formed with a recess section having an opening section for allowing water or ice cubes discharged from the water port or the ice cube port to be introduced into the recess section; and

an external plate section coupled to the front surface of the outer case except for an area in which the dispenser is installed, in order to form an external appearance of the refrigerator door, wherein the housing is formed at upper and lower ends thereof with insertion slots into which edge parts of the external plate section are inserted.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously Presented) A refrigerator door, comprising:

an outer case forming a front appearance of the refrigerator door;

an inner case forming a rear appearance of the refrigerator door;

an insulation layer formed between the outer case and the inner case;

a dispenser detachably coupled to a front surface of the outer case and including a housing, which forms an external appearance of the dispenser and is formed with a recess section having an opening section for allowing water or ice cubes discharged from the water port or the ice cube port to be introduced into the recess section; and

an external plate section coupled to the front surface of the outer case except for an area in which the dispenser is installed, in order to form an external appearance of the refrigerator door, wherein an actuating lever is installed in the recess section of the housing for a discharge operation of water or ice cubes from the dispenser, and a driving lever is installed rearward of the recess section so as to open/close a water port or an ice cube port according to actuating force of the actuating lever transferred thereto through an engagement bar, and wherein the driving lever is installed at a lever resting section formed in the mounting bracket provided between a rear surface of the housing and the outer case.

23. (Previously Presented) A refrigerator door, comprising:
- an outer case forming a front appearance of the refrigerator door;
 - an inner case forming a rear appearance of the refrigerator door;
 - an insulation layer formed between the outer case and the inner case;
 - a dispenser detachably coupled to a front surface of the outer case and including a housing, which forms an external appearance of the dispenser and is formed with a recess section having an opening section for allowing water or ice cubes discharged from the water port or the ice cube port to be introduced into the recess section; and
- an external plate section coupled to the front surface of the outer case except for an area in which the dispenser is installed, in order to form an external appearance of the refrigerator door, wherein an actuating lever is installed in the recess section of the housing for a discharge operation of water or ice cubes from the dispenser, and a driving lever is installed rearward of the recess section so as to open/close a water port or an ice cube port according to actuating force of the actuating lever transferred thereto through an engagement bar, and wherein the engagement bar rearwardly extends from a rear surface of the actuating lever by passing through a rear wall of the recess section and makes contact with the driving lever.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Previously Presented) A refrigerator door, comprising:

- an outer case forming a front appearance of the refrigerator door;
- an inner case forming a rear appearance of the refrigerator door;
- an insulation layer formed between the outer case and the inner case; and
- a dispenser detachably coupled to a front surface of the outer case and including a housing, which forms an external appearance of the dispenser and is formed with a recess section, wherein a mounting bracket having a recess part corresponding to the recess section of the housing is coupled to the outer case, and the housing is coupled to the mounting bracket by means of mounting protrusions and a protrusion receiving section formed in the housing and the mounting bracket, respectively, thereby coupling the dispenser to the outer case.

26. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator door as claimed in claim 25, wherein one side end of the housing is rotatably coupled to the mounting bracket.

27. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator door as claimed in claim 25, wherein an actuating lever is installed in the recess section of the housing for a discharge operation of water or ice cubes from the dispenser, and a driving lever is installed rearward of the recess section so as to open/close a water port or an ice cube port according to actuating force of the actuating lever transferred thereto through an engagement bar.

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28. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator door as claimed in claim 27, wherein the driving lever is installed at a lever resting section formed in the mounting bracket provided between a rear surface of the housing and the outer case.

29. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator door as claimed in claim 27, wherein the engagement bar rearwardly extends from a rear surface of the actuating lever by passing through a rear wall of the recess section and makes contact with the driving lever.